

Spector Jury Reaches Impasse



Dozens of demonstrators hold signs imploring Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to sign legislation that would legalize gay marriage in California.

GARY MCCARTHY

Deputy Crash

From City News Service

A motorist who collided with a sheriff's deputy on a motorcycle in West Hollywood fled the scene Sunday, a Los Angeles police officer said.

The accident on Sunset Boulevard at Doheny Drive occurred about 1:15 a.m., said Sgt. Dan Dyer of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's West Hollywood Station.

The deputy suffered an injury to a knee and was treated and released earlier at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Deputy Hugh Macias said.

A description of the suspect vehicle was unavailable, Macias said.

Puck to Host L.A. Fundraiser

Staff Report

Charity begins at home, but in Hollywood that can also come with a filet mignon.

Better known for catering the post Oscar Governor's Ball, top restaurateur Wolfgang Puck will celebrate the opening of his latest eatery to benefit the L.A. Chapters of Meals on Wheels.

Held in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary of the American Wine & Food Festival, Puck and restaurant designer Barbara Lazaroff, will host the glitzy champagne bash Sept. 28 at Red Seven, located in the Pacific Design Center.

Since its inception in 1982, the Puck-Lazaroff Charitable Foundation has supported the festival, raising more than \$13 million for Wheels.

The Red Hot@Red Seven \$150 ticket benefit will feature bubbles from Moët & Chandon, wines from Newton Vineyard, Patron Tequila and a Cigar Lounge compliments of Cigar Aficionado Magazine.

For more information visit awff.org or call (310) 777-3707.

Gay Marriage Supporters Rally on Hollywood Blvd.

Activists gather to send a message to Gov. Schwarzenegger.

By Cristina Peña

Sponsored by the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center, a stream of over 200 community faces flooded the streets of Hollywood Boulevard Tuesday evening to rally and march against California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's public announcement to veto assembly bill AB-43, which would provide equal rights for lesbian and gay couples who want to enter into the civil institution of marriage.

At a little after 7 p.m., city officials and supporters, armed with posters, rainbow streamers and a 10-foot mock-figure

of the governor, convened at the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center's McDonald/Wright Building on a street adjacent to the Walk of Fame. That same evening 16 cities across the state, including Humboldt, San Francisco and San Diego staged similar demonstrations in protest of the governor's decision.

"Tonight we are asking the governor to do the right thing," said Lorri Jean, CEO for the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center. Before placing a symbolic pen in the hand of the enlarged Schwarzenegger representation, she said: "We don't want another veto sequel. Tonight it's time for him to sign the bill and we are willing to help."

Immediately after, the growing crowd broke into a series of loud chants urging Schwarzenegger

to "sign the bill." Many supporters adorned "Will You Marry?" stickers and waved posters with catchy puns that read "Do The 'Write' Thing ... Sign AB-43," "We Want Your Autograph," and "Arnold Be A Real Hero 4 Humanity."

"We have asked the governor to meet with gay and lesbian families before he makes the decision to veto this bill," Jean said to the crowd. "He has refused."

While the two co-authors of the bill, state Assemblyman Lloyd Levin of the 40th District and Assemblyman Mike Feuer of the 42nd District, expressed frustration, they also shared optimism about the battle for gay rights.

Levin called the ongoing dispute "the civil rights of my era"

RALLY page 5

Foxx Receives Star

The quintuple-threat joins an elite club that includes Crosby, Sinatra and Streisand.

From City News Service

Multi-talented Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx received the 2,347th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame Friday, two weeks before the release of his newest film "The Kingdom."

Ron Meyer, the president and chief operating officer of Universal Studios, which is releasing "The Kingdom," was among those joining Foxx in speaking at the late-morning ceremony in front of the Kodak Theatre, where Foxx received his best actor Academy Award in 2005 for his portrayal of musician Ray Charles in "Ray."

FOXX page 5

Jurors tell Judge Fidler they are hopelessly deadlocked after nearly a week of deliberations.

By Ciaran McEvoy
City News Service

The deadlocked jury in the Phil Spector murder trial will not be given the option of convicting the music producer of the lesser charge of manslaughter, the judge presiding over the case ruled Wednesday.

Spector, 67, is accused of shooting 40-year-old Lana Clarkson around 5 a.m. Feb. 3, 2003, in the foyer of his Alhambra mansion.

On their seventh day of deliberations, jurors notified the court Tuesday they had reached an impasse after nearly 32 hours of discussions in a trial that produced 77 witnesses testifying beginning April 26. The jury foreman said the nine-man, three-woman panel was split 7-5, without indicating which way the panel was leaning on the second-degree murder charge against Spector.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler said Tuesday he was considering giving the jury the option of considering the lesser offense of manslaughter against Spector, but after hearing arguments from attorneys Wednesday, he decided against it.

"We'd all like this case to get resolved in this case and especially have the jury arrive at a result, given the amount of time that has been spent on this case,

both by us, by the jurors, by the families," Fidler said. "I mean, this case has been ongoing since 2003.

"... At a certain point in deliberations, not at the beginning, after the jury has arrived at an impasse, to then give them a new offense — which in essence is what manslaughter is; it may be a lesser offense, but it is a new theory of culpability, if you will — is in essence saying to them in my mind, 'Well, if you can't find him guilty of what you have, try this.'

"And I have a problem with that. And as I believe the Supreme Court and the appellate courts have had a problem with. It's not so much the words. It's basically the timing when they've reached an impasse and to say, 'OK, if this doesn't work we'll give you this.' Because it's basically indicating to the jury we want you to come to a verdict, and we'll give you this other option."

The defendant, who maintains Clarkson shot herself because she was despondent over her career and finances, faces 15 years to life in prison if convicted of second-degree murder, with a possible added 10-year penalty for use of a firearm.

In sharp contrast, a manslaughter conviction would have carried a two-to four-year sentence,

SPECTOR page 5

City Council OKs Winter Festival

Plans for the 2008 event move forward despite misgivings from some officials.

By Cristina Peña

The West Hollywood City Council approved the concept and festival dates for the Illuminations Event, a 10-day global winter holiday festival planned to be held at West Hollywood Park from Dec. 5-14 in 2008. Produced by Luxevents, the free-to-the-public festival boasts showcasing 100 international artists from fields in fashion, film and television, architecture, interior design and fine arts.

In addition to a large volume of pieces being displayed, the festival also proposes a performing arts stage to be used by professional and community based organizations and an ice-skating ring for recreational use by city residents and ice-skating exhibitions.

Funding for the event is proposed to be underwritten by sponsorships secured by the event producers. An added benefit of the event is to raise funds for the Special Olympics national non-profit organization along with one local charity through the festival's kick-off party and silent auction. Currently, the steering committee and the artist selection committee is considering the West Hollywood Library program for youth and literacy as the designated local charity.

According to the proposal in the staff report, "While the hope is to attract some well known artists to participate, the plan is also to include local artists, artists associated with West Hollywood's galleries and design centers, as

well as emerging artists from the region's art and design schools such as Cal Arts, Otis, Art Center College of Design and Southern California Institute of Architecture."

The council voiced concern over the festival's funding as well as the logistics of the event such as attendance projections, the impact on traffic and considering a back-up plan if sponsors fail to meet their proposed donation amounts.

Budgeted at slightly under \$1 million for the event, West Hollywood Mayor Pro Tempore Jeffrey Prang clarified the city's intent to provide in-kind support through the use of the city park and waived fees rather than direct city funding.

"This is a really big budget item and it's not our money," Prang said. "It's a very interesting concept that could have a lot of value to the community ... but I'm concerned about the cost."

Andrew Campbell, cultural affairs administrator for the city's Department of Economic Development and Special Projects, assured Prang that the city's contribution to Illuminations would be similar to the Christopher Street West Festival, in which the city simply provides a location.

"An important concept here is that the park will not be closed," Campbell said. "It will be open to the public throughout the event. ... People are really excited about this becoming the possibility of an annual regional event. We don't have a particular event like this that takes place in the region."

The council advised staff develop both a use agreement contact for the use of the West Hollywood Park location and a program contact for the event itself.

COUNCIL page 5



BILL JONES

Jamie Foxx kneels over his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Rally

FROM PAGE 1

and urged each supporter to ask at least two friends to write to the governor demanding he sign the bill into legislation.

“No group in the history of the United States has had to battle for its civil rights at the ballot box and gay and lesbian and transgender people should not be in [this] position,” Feuer said. “We know it’s inevitable the right to marry is going to be granted. History is going to look back on this day and people are going to shake there heads and wonder what was this California thinking because this is our California and we stand together because we stand for something.”

The president of the Los Angeles City Council Eric Garcetti declared the Hollywood area “sacred ground” not just for the LGBT community but for civil rights.

“We have asked Arnold Schwarzenegger who has given us a lot of rhetoric about being pro-gay to put his actions where



GARY MCCARTHY

Gov. Scharzenegger was present in effigy at the Tuesday night rally.

his mouth is, to make sure that he lives up to who he says he is,” Garcetti said. He added: “When history looks back on this, he is going to ask himself, why didn’t I sign that in 2005? Why didn’t I sign that in 2006? Arnold you can sign it in 2007.”

West Hollywood Mayor John J. Duran voiced anger and disapproval toward the governor, stating that Schwarzenegger would be soon be forgotten like the other two Republican state representatives, George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson who

also tried to challenge gay and lesbian civil rights.

“It seems like once again my anger has been inflamed like it has every decade for the last 30 years,” Duran said. “I have decided that I am no longer going to call this person the governor

Council

FROM PAGE 1

“This is a kind of up scale event that a lot of people are going to want us to be associated with, especially since it will get a lot of media attention with the people they are taking about bring here,” said Councilman John Heilman. “Also the possibility of ice skating in Southern California is just

such a great opportunity for our local kids and adults to participate in. I do think that we need to clarify that there is not going to be any city money coming in for the sponsorship of this event as we expect them to raise all the money.”

Councilwoman Abby Land agreed, saying that while she thought the idea was great and exciting it was necessary to see if the festival was going to be “self-sustaining.”

Heilman advised that Ray Reynolds, director of the department of economic development and special projects, should work with the West Hollywood transportation staff to begin considering how the city is going to accommodate this inflow of people attracted to the event.

“It’s always wonderful when people come to West Hollywood,” said Mayor John J. Duran. “They fill our hotels and our restaurants and our shops. It’s

nice to do something during the holidays that brings a lot of people into the community that isn’t based on one big shirtless party. So I support it.”

With Councilman Sal Guarriello absent, the council unanimously approved the holiday event concept and dates with plans to review the two proposed city contracts later this year.

Contact Cristina Peña at cpena@wavepublication.com

Spector

FROM PAGE 1

with a possible enhancement for use of a firearm ranging from three to 10 years, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s office.

Fidler said he will now re-read some of the jury instructions to the deadlocked panel, which will then be asked to resume deliberating solely on the second-degree murder charge to see if the deadlock can be broken.

The jury foreman told the court Tuesday he doubted any further instructions from the judge would break the deadlock.

“At this time I don’t believe that anything else will change the position of the jurors based on the facts that are in evidence,” said the jury foreman, an engineer from Alhambra.

Fidler also said Tuesday he doubted that re-reading instructions on the notion of “reasonable doubt” would help the jury — hinting that the case could likely be heading for a mistrial.

If the deadlock persists and a mistrial is declared, prosecutors would have the option of re-trying Spector, offering him a plea bargain or dropping the case. But if Fidler decides to give the jury the involuntary manslaughter option, the attorneys will be allowed to make more arguments

to the jury.

Spector and Clarkson met when he went to the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip, where she was working as a \$9-per-hour VIP hostess. Spector, who had spent the night on the town dining and drinking with two other women, invited Clarkson to come home with him. Hours later, she was dead.

Prosecutors have suggested that Spector shot Clarkson when she rebuffed his romantic advances. Five women testified that Spector pulled guns on them in similar situations over the years when they tried to leave his presence.

The defense contends that Clarkson was depressed about

her career, but also suggested that she may have accidentally pulled the trigger. She had been drinking tequila and taking pain medicine.

Clarkson was best known for her starring role in the 1985 Roger Corman cult hit “Barbarian Queen,” though she had bit parts on dozens of TV shows and in a few well-known movies, such as 1982’s “Fast Times at Ridgemont High.”

Spector, renowned in music circles for the “Wall of Sound” recording technique he invented in the 1960s and used in his work with the Beatles and other groups, is free on \$1 million bail.

Promises

FROM PAGE 3

ing his honor in the underground world of the Russian Mafia.

With “Eastern Promises,” another element Cronenberg has mastered and added to his resume of gore is the ability to bring realism to an unrealistic situation.

Dozens of exceptional suspense titles can be found in film archives, but most suffer from a single common flaw; the element of surprise.

Now, arguably this a facet many suspense fans seek in their viewing sessions, but because of the actual “surprise” element, we are usually left to only witness the end result of an undisclosed

amount of time dedicated to planning.

But what “Eastern Promises” achieves brilliantly, is by letting us witness the top-secret talks between the Russian mobsters and their crime boss

Instead of facilitating a predictable experience, we dealt numerous scenes of unease and actually get to see what makes these characters tick.

We get to see the difficulties of being a crime kingpin, the risks Mafioso’s face, the nervousness and uncertainty burdened upon Anna on what to do with the orphaned infant, all interact with one another and accumulate a sense of suspense that should build an unfamiliar territory for fans of the genre.

Of course we wouldn’t feel any

discomfort the characters were experience if it wasn’t for convincing performances.

Mortenson, who will most likely be remembered as the mighty Aragorn from The Lord of the Rings trilogy, was never expected to step out of a British accent for the remainder of his career.

But his authentic sounding portrayal of Nikolai serves as the heart of the suspense of the film by delivering different types of personalities to his crime boss and toward Anna, once again supports my praise for the film’s ability to show such secret conversations and interactions, but not tell too much.

His uncertain and untrustworthy performance never makes the viewer feel situated with whose side he’s really on.

Cheese

FROM PAGE 1

James’ agent, who would have been his new brother-in-law, decides to drop him from his books.

That’s just before he tells him about auditions for a role in a remake of his all-time favorite film, Paddy Chayefsky’s 1955 Oscar-winner, “Marty.” In the funniest line in the movie, the agent reveals that teen idol Aaron Carter has all but snagged the role.

Fortunately, his mother, played by another “Curb” performer and one of the early founders of Second City company, Mina Kolb, loves him enough to overfeed him with kindness.

Things start to look up, though, when after meeting his buddy for lunch he wanders into a nearby soda store and meets the kookily hot Beth, played by the acerbic comic Sarah Silverman. Silverman’s growing reputation



IFC FILMS

Garlin (right) chats with buddy Richard Kind, a fellow “Curb” cast member.

as the pin-up of female comedy is used to somewhat implausible affect here.

After only minutes she’s eliciting intimate sexual details and a little while later, commands him to go bra shopping. Of course, in the male imagination, every hot chick — even the funny one’s — can’t help but find you irresistible.

The Germans have a phrase for it, “rheinisch wunschenken” or wishful thinking. However, the slightly unhinged Beth unceremoniously dumps him after an

unseen one-night stand.

Thus, enter the good girl, Bonnie Hunt, yes yet another Second City alum who plays Stella Lewis, a woman James cutely meets in a record store and turns out to be the third grade teacher of his best friend’s daughter and his god-child.

I’m not telling, but James just might have found someone to eat cheese and fall in love with.

Contact Olu Alemoru at oalemoru@wavepublication.com

but instead this person shall now be referenced as footnote 3... Mr. Governor, you will become irrelevant in three more years but I guarantee you one thing, the right to marry will be afforded to gay and lesbian Americans within my lifetime, within your lifetime.”

Following Duran’s speech, Jean lead the march north to Hollywood Blvd. and west three blocks to Schwarzenegger’s Hollywood star in front of the Hollywood Guinness Museum. Some of the marchers included clergymen from a variety of local churches and several same-sex couples’ hand-in-hand with middle-school aged children. Marchers were ordered by LAPD to refrain from walking on the street and to remain on the sidewalk.

“Well there is something so fundamental about love in our society,” Feuer said in an interview during the march. “AB-43 is about recognizing the most basic emotion that we share in our society and we talk so much about honoring monogamy and keeping families together. AB-43 is about family values. Anytime you have a right that is denied to any member of our society, none of our rights are safe.”

Foxx

FROM PAGE 1

In “The Kingdom,” Foxx portrays an FBI special agent who assembles an elite team of agents to go into Saudi Arabia to find a terrorist who detonated a bomb inside a Western housing compound in Riyadh.

“This is one of the most amazing days of my life,” Foxx said. “I want to thank the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for making my dream come true. This is beyond my wildest dreams.”

Honorary Hollywood Mayor Johnny Grant noted during the ceremony that Foxx could qualify in all five Walk of Fame star categories.

Born Eric Marlon Bishop on Dec. 13, 1967, in Terrell, Texas, Foxx was a high school quarterback who went on to study classical piano at Juilliard after taking lessons from the age of three.

In 1989, a girlfriend challenged him to go onstage at a comedy club, leading to a career as a successful standup comic. It also prompted him to change his name to Jamie Foxx after he learned that club managers often

In bold letters, a sign placed over the former actor’s star read “End the Prejudice” with Jean urging supporters to throw pens on the star as a visual symbol for the governor to sign the bill. To the tune of honking horns by passers-by, both in favor and against the issue, the crowd began to sing the 1964 Dixie Cups song “Chapel of Love.”

“The great thing is that this bill doesn’t force any religious institution to marry anyone within their traditional [boundaries],” said Reverend Neil Thomas, senior pastor at the West Hollywood Metropolitan Community Church. “It separates the religious court from the civil rights. I think that’s why it is so much easier for [clergymen] to support this by legislation, even as a minister who marries LGBT people all the time. This particular bill really helps us to identify that this is a civil rights movement and not a religious fight.”

By 9 p.m. the crowd of supporters had dispersed, waking back to the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center where the evening began and Hollywood Blvd quieted down for night.

Contact Cristina Peña at cpena@wavepublication.com

have female comics appear before the male comics. Managers would often move him up on the list of performers after reading his name.

He picked his last name as a tribute to the legendary black comic Redd Foxx.

Foxx’s stand-up comedy success led him to being cast in 1991 on the Fox Broadcasting sketch comedy series “In Living Color.” From 1996-2001 he starred in The WB comedy, “The Jamie Foxx Show.”

Foxx’s big break in his movie career came in 1999 when director Oliver Stone cast him as quarterback Willie Beamen in the football drama “Any Given Sunday.”

Foxx went on to co-star with Tom Cruise in the 2004 film “Collateral,” for which he received a best supporting actor Oscar nomination. His other movie credits include “Dreamgirls” and “Miami Vice.”

Foxx has also had a successful music career, with his 2005 album “Unpredictable” reaching the top of the charts. He is one of four people with a No. 1 album in the United States and an Academy Award for acting. The others are Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand.

Palisades Charter High Seeks Board Members

There are 3 seats available for community members and 2 seats available for parent representatives on its Board of Directors. One community member and one parent must live outside of the Palisades. Palisades Charter High is located in Pacific Palisades, CA with an enrollment of over 2700 from 107 zip codes in Los Angeles County. Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month usually from 6-10 p.m. Please submit a letter of intent listing qualifications to Palisades Charter High Nominating Committee, 15777 Bowdoin St., Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 by Oct. 1. Candidates will be presented to stakeholders at Back to School Night on Oct. 4 with ballots mailed on Oct. 9, to be returned by Oct. 23. Elected Board members will be seated at the November Board meeting.

LOS ANGELES INDEPENDENT PUBLIC NOTICES

GOVERNMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the West Hollywood Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following item:

LOCATION: 1342-1346 N. Hayworth Avenue, West Hollywood, California.

REQUEST: Demolish an existing six-unit building and construct a new sixteen-unit condominium building.

PERMIT NUMBERS: Demolition Permit 2004-013, Development Permit 2004-012, Tentative Tract Map 2007-007, and any other required permits.

APPLICANT: Grovewood Properties

TIME/PLACE Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.
OF HEARING: West Hollywood Park Auditorium 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard West Hollywood, CA 90069

ZONE: R4

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: Environmental Impact Report prepared.

The staff report will be available on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., and the W.H. Library, 715 N. San Vicente Boulevard.

IF YOU CHALLENGE this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in the written correspondence delivered to the West Hollywood Planning Commission, via the Community Development Department at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) will be available for checkout at the meeting. If you require special assistance to attend (e.g.

LOS ANGELES INDEPENDENT PUBLIC NOTICES

made available to any interested party on request: Facilities Support Services/Labor Compliance Program

333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 19th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 241-4665

9/20/07
WHI-1199926# WEST HOLLYWOOD INDEPENDENT

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

BIDDERS ARE CAUTIONED TO EXAMINE CAREFULLY SPECIFICATIONS AND BID FORMS BEFORE BIDDING.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles will receive bids from the District’s list of pre-qualified contractors to furnish all labor and material for the following:
DATE OF BID OPENING: October 8, 2007 (Monday@ 10:00 AM)

BID NUMBER: 0810056 REMOVE AND REPLACE ROOF AND GUTTERS -SICHERMOYA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (33.08051) Pre-Bid Meeting: 9/26/2007 (Wednesday @ 9:00 AM).Prime contractor shall hold license in the following classification(s): “B or C-39 only” license required; Contractor Caused Compensable Delay (L.D.): \$500.00 per calendar day. The anticipated construction range for the Work of this Project is \$175,001.00 to \$350,000.00.

The Los Angeles Unified School District has a Labor Compliance Program as approved by the Director of the Department of Industrial relations and the Board of Education in compliance with Section 1771.5 of the California Labor Code.

Copies of the prevailing rate of per diem wages are on file at the following District office and shall be

Each bid shall be in accordance with drawings, specifications and other contract documents; now on file at Facilities Construction Contracts, 1545 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90017. Bidding documents are available online at www.ocplannercenter.com and will be available Monday through Friday on 9/18/2007 at Universal Reprographics, Incorporated, 2706 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90057 from 8:00 am through 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm through 5:00 pm. A fee will be charged for plans and specifications.

On February 25, 2003, the Board of Education adopted a twenty-five (25%) participation goal for Small Business Enterprise (SBE), per contract, based on the basis of award amount of funds allocated to the school construction and modernization program. This goal will be included in each construction contract.

Each bid shall be made out on a form to be obtained in Facilities Construction Contracts; shall be sealed and filed with the Facilities Construction Contracts, 1545 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90017 before said time and on the date shown above; opened and read aloud in public at or about said time at said address.

Attention of bidders is called to the provisions concerning bid guarantee in the Bid Form and contract bonds requirements in the General Conditions of the specifications.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in any bid. DATED: 9/11/07
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES by Facilities Services Division.

9/20/07
WHI-1198474# WEST HOLLYWOOD INDEPENDENT